

or any related environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment, each scientific product the Secretary relied upon in developing the rule, environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment; and

“(2) for those scientific products receiving Federal funds, also make publicly available—

“(A) the raw data used for the federally funded scientific product; and

“(B) background information of the authors of the scientific study.

“(C) COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), failure to comply with the publication requirements of subsection (b)—

“(A) with respect to draft or supplemental rules, environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, or economic assessments shall extend by 1 day the notice and comment period for each day of non-compliance; or

“(B) with respect to final or emergency rules, shall delay the effective date of the final rule by 60 days plus an additional day for each day of noncompliance.

“(2) WITHDRAWAL.—If the Secretary fails to comply with the publication requirements of subsection (b) for more than 180 days after the date of publication of any rule, or any related environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment, under this Act, the Secretary shall withdraw the rule, environmental impact statement, environmental assessment, or economic assessment.”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 529 the following:

“Sec. 530. Publication of scientific products for rules and related environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, and economic assessments.”

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.—Section 702 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1292) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsection (e) and (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.—Nothing in this Act authorizes the Secretary to take any action by rule, interpretive rule, policy, regulation, notice, or order that duplicates any action taken under an Act referred to in subsection (a) (including regulations and rules).

“(d) DEFERENCE TO IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES AND STATE AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out this Act (including rules, interpretive rules, policies, regulations, notices, or orders), the Secretary—

“(1) shall defer to the determinations of an agency or State authority implementing an Act referred to in subsection (a) with respect to any agency action under the jurisdiction of the agency or State authority, as applicable; and

“(2) shall not make any determination regarding any agency action subject to an Act referred to in subsection (a).”

SA 3140. Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which

was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of part IV of subtitle A of title III, add the following:

SEC. 30. POLICIES RELATING TO BIOMASS ENERGY.

To support the key role that forests in the United States can play in addressing the energy needs of the United States, the Secretary, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall jointly—

(1) ensure that Federal policy relating to forest bioenergy—

(A) is consistent across all Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) recognizes the full benefits of the use of forest biomass for energy, conservation, and responsible forest management; and

(2) establish clear and simple policies for the use of biomass as an energy solution, including policies that—

(A) reflect the carbon-neutrality of forest bioenergy;

(B) recognize biomass as a renewable energy source;

(C) encourage private investment throughout the biomass supply chain, including in—

(i) working forests;

(ii) harvesting operations;

(iii) forest improvement operations;

(iv) bioenergy;

(v) wood products; and

(vi) paper manufacturing;

(D) encourage forest management to improve forest health; and

(E) recognize State initiatives to use biomass.

SA 3141. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title III, add the following:

Subtitle I—Wind Energy

SEC. 3801. INTERAGENCY RAPID RESPONSE TEAM FOR WIND ENERGY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an interagency rapid response team, to be known as the “Interagency Rapid Response Team for Wind Energy” (referred to in this section as the “Team”), to expedite and improve the permitting process for wind generation on Federal land and non-Federal land.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Team shall be comprised of representatives from—

(1) the Department;

(2) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

(3) the Department of the Interior;

(4) the Department of Defense;

(5) the Department of Agriculture;

(6) the Department of Commerce;

(7) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(8) the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation;

(9) the Federal Aviation Administration; and

(10) the Council on Environmental Quality.

(c) DUTIES.—The Team shall—

(1) establish clear timelines for the review of projects;

(2) facilitate coordination and unified environmental documentation among wind project applicants, Federal agencies, States, and Indian tribes involved in the siting and permitting processes; and

(3) regularly notify all participating members of the Team involved in any specific permit of—

(A) any outstanding agency action that is required with respect to the permit; and

(B) any approval or required comment that has exceeded statutory or agency timelines for completion, including an identification of any Federal agency, department, or field office that has not met the applicable timeline.

(d) POINT OF CONTACT.—The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall provide a unified point of contact for—

(1) resolving interagency or intraagency issues or delays with respect to wind permitting; and

(2) receiving and resolving complaints from parties with outstanding or in-process applications relating to wind permitting.

SA 3142. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 253, strike lines 21 through 25 and insert the following:

Defense;

“(10) to identify and support opportunities to pair hydrokinetic generation with existing hydroelectric dam facilities operated by the Corps of Engineers; and

“(11) to support in-water technology development with international partners using existing cooperative procedures (including memoranda of understanding)—

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to S. 2415, a bill to implement integrity measures to strengthen the EB-5 Regional Center Program in order to promote and reform foreign capital investment and job creation in American communities; dated January 28, 2016.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Helping Americans Prepared for Retirement: Increasing Access, Participation and Coverage in Retirement Savings Plans.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m.